United Nations E/2001/L.2/Add.16

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
12 December 2001
English
Original: English/Spanish

Resumed substantive session for 2001
December 2001
Agenda item 1
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Elections, nominations and confirmations

Election of eight members to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. The Secretary-General has received the following additional nominations for election to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:[1]

María Fernanda **Espinosa** (Ecuador);
Otilia **Lux García de Cotí** (Guatemala);
Marcos **Matías Alonso** (Mexico).

2. Biographical information on the candidates is contained in the annex.

[1] For information on other candidates nominated by Governments, see E/2001/L.2/Add.14 and Add.15.

01-69286 (E) 131201 131201

Annex

María Fernanda Espinosa (Ecuador)

Ms. Espinosa is working as the Senior Adviser on indigenous peoples and conservation for the World Conservation Union (IUCN). She is currently based in the IUCN regional office for South America at Quito.

Her long list of accomplishments includes extensive fieldwork and a large number of publications and lectures on indigenous rights, environmental policy, conservation, governance, territorial rights, poverty, gender, ethnicity and civil society in the Amazon. Ms. Espinosa has had assignments with a number of institutions and organizations, such as the Inter American Bank, the German Technical Cooperation Agency, WWF, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Commission for Sustainable Development, the Treaty of Amazonian Cooperation, the United Nations Children's Fund, the European Community, the Confederation of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin and several Ecuadorian institutions. For years, Ms. Espinosa has run several television programmes and written many articles on environment, cultural and political issues, and brought the environmental debate to a broader public in Ecuador.

She is associate professor and researcher at the Latin American Faculty for Social Sciences and teaches several courses on ethnic politics, political ecology, international policy and indigenous rights.

Ms. Espinosa is a PhD candidate in environmental geography at Rutgers University, New Jersey; she has a Master's Degree in interdisciplinary social sciences and a post-graduate degree in anthropology and political sciences at the Latin American Faculty for Social Sciences, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in applied linguistics at the Catholic University of Ecuador, Quito. During her research work in the Amazon, she received fellowships from the Ford Foundation, the Latin American Studies Association, the International Society of Women Geographers and the Rockefeller Foundation, and research grants from the German Technical Cooperation Agency and Fundacion Natura, Quito.

Otilia Lux García de Cotí (Guatemala)

Professional background

Licenciatura en pedagogía (first degree awarded after five to six years of university study in teaching), specializing in educational administration, Rafael Landivar University, Guatemala.

Profesorado en Enseñanza Media en Pedagogía y Ciencia de la Educación (secondary-school teacher degree awarded after three-and-half years of study in teaching and educational sciences), San Carlos de Guatemala University.

Primary school teacher, urban area, Juan De León Normal Institute, Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatemala.

Languages

K'iche', Spanish and beginning English.

Professional experience and posts held

2000 to present	Minister of Culture and Sports of Guatemala.
1999	Education Projects Officer in the Agency for International Development (AID), Guatemala.
1997-1999	Member of the Commission for Historical Clarification, Guatemala.
1997	Consultant in the design and elaboration of the Intercultural Bilingual Education Plan, Guatemala.
1993-1996	Member of the Governing Board of the Social Investment Fund, Guatemala.

Decorations

Decoration of the Francisco Marroquín Order, conferred by the Ministry of Education, 1981.

Decorated by the Commission for Children, Women and Families of the Congress of the Republic, 1998.

Participation and national and international seminars and congresses

1998	Panellist on truth commissions in Sweden, Norway, Spain, El Salvador; panellist on peace and reconciliation, Congress of the Republic, Maya Foundation;
	Panellist on Mayan Women in the New Millennium, Rafael Landivar University, EDUMAYA programme.
December 1988	Panellist on truth commissions in South Africa.

Publications

With Christian Tomuschat and Alfredo Balsells Tojo. "Guatemala: Memoria del Silencio" (Guatemala: Memory of Silence) (Tz'inil Na'tab'al). Report of the Commission for Historical Clarification (CEH).

With Gabriela Nuñez (1994). "Educación de las niñas: informe de Guatemala" (Education of the girl-child: report of Guatemala). Revista madres y niños. Volume 13, No. 2. Boletin Alimentación Infantil y Nutrición Materna.

With Garbiela Nuñez (1992). "La niña: barreras a su educación" (The girl-child: barriers to her education). Revista del Maestro. Year 1, volume 2.

With Garbiela Nuñez (1993). "Acciones a favor de la educación de la niña" (Action to promote the education of the girl-child). Revista del Maestro. Year 2, volume 3.

With Garbiela Nuñez (1993). "La Equidad en la organización escolar" (Equity in school organization). Revista del Maestro. Year 2, volume 4.

With Garbiela Nuñez and Ileana Rubio (1994). "Esfuerzo participativo para la educación de la niña" (Participatory effort to promote the education of the girl-child). Revista del Maestro. Year 3, volume 5.

"Escuela Normal Regional de Occidente de Santa Lucía Utatlán y su proyección hacia las comunidades indígenas" (Regional Normal School of Santa Lucía Utatlán and its outreach to indigenous communities). Thesis for *Licenciatura*, Rafael Landivar University, Guatemala (1980).

Marcos Matías Alonso (Mexico)

Academical data

1980-1984	Degree on social anthropology from the National School of Anthropology and History, Mexico City. The title of his thesis is "Social stability, agrarian deprivation and indigenous struggle in the region called Husteca Hidalguense".
1999-2000	Studied for a Masters Degree on planning and development, autonomous University of the State of Morelos. The title of his thesis, still in progress, "Development of indigenous strategies in the state of Guerrero".
1997-2000	Participated in several courses, seminars and workshops on social projects, human rights, indigenous rights and leadership in Chile, Geneva, Greenland and the United States of America, as well as in Mexico.

Research activities

1985-2000	Participated in various research projects, most of them on indigenous matters.

Other institutional activities

1985-1998	Participated in and coordinated several projects on indigenous matters, mainly in Mexico.

Publications

Participated in the preparation of and wrote large number of publications: several on his homeland of Guerrero and on indigenous affairs; a dictionary of the Nahuatl language; agriculture; strategic resources in indigenous regions; development processes in indigenous matters in Mexico; and indigenous voices at international forums.

Indigenous video productions

Through his organization, Altepetl Nahuas, A. C., has produced various indigenous videos on various subjects.

Membership of institutions

Member of various institutions, national and international, as a regular member, honorary member, founding member and coordinator of the Mexican application to the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous People of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Academic, administrative and organizational activities

Since 1986, has coordinated, directed and participated in a great number of activities, one main activity being, since 1979, researcher at the Centre of Superior Studies and Social Anthropology in Mexico.

International background and travel

From 1993 to the present, has observed and participated in several international seminars and meetings, and has attended international conferences throughout the world.

Current activities

On 11 December 2000, the President of Mexico designated him Director General of the National Institute for Indigenous Affairs, the first indigenous person to be designated director in 52 years.